

NARRATIVE

OF THE

CONFESSION

AND EXECUTION

OF THE FOUR PRISONERS

TYBURN

AND THE

REMARKS

ON THE

PROCEEDINGS

AT THE

COURT

OF

THE

COMMONS

IN

THE

YEAR

1751

AND

THE

At the last Sessions at the Old-Baily Arraigned with his Wife
and both Condemned for High-Treason, for Clipping and
other ways diminishing the Current Coin of this Kingdom, the Dis-
covery of which was as follows.

THE HISTORY

A Daughter of *Edward Conyers*, being sent out by her Mother to
buy Bread and other Commodities they wanted, offering two Shil-
lings which appeared lately clip in payment was seized, and being
examined how she came by that money, she answered, she had it
from her Mother, when being told that they were clip, and if
she did not discover all that she knew about it, she must be presently
sent to prison, she immediately confessed that her Mother used to clip
money, and that they had Shears, Files, Mowing, and other In-
struments necessary for that wicked Trade; upon this a Constable
with a Warrant went immediately to search the house, where they
found in *Conyers* Lodgings the said Implements as also clip money &
Clippings, upon this they were both sent to *Newgate*: and at the *Old*
Baily the last Sessions, upon plain and undeniable Evidence they were
found Guilty of Felony and High-Treason and accordingly condem-
ned. But *John* his Wife, by his Majestys great Clemency is Reprieved
upon her great Calency and Contrition. *Edward Conyers* the Hus-
band, did not till a little before Execution seem to be so nearly
touched in Conscience, as a person in his unhappy Circumstances
ought to have been, he was willing to own himself in General a
great Offender, and one who was grown old in various Courses, but
such as yet were rather the common Lapses of Mankind, than parti-
cular Vices from his own depraved affections. He was ready to Ex-
empt himself from the Guilt of that Crime he was Condemned for,
either in hopes of a Reprieve, supposing his seeming innocence and
denial of the Fact might prove a good Argument for Royal mercy.
But the Night before Execution, he seemed to have a true sense of
his sad condition, and often prayed and read in the Holy Bible,
and was deeply concerned for the deplorable condition of his poor
Children, the care of which he very earnestly recommended to his
Friends. But this Morning was Reprieved, by his Majestys Grace
and Favour.

John Davis, was another of those unhappy Criminals who his
late fathered Noble Crime for which he suffered was one
On the 10th of December last, he with two others, being one
and two in the morning, broke into the house of Mr. *Marshall* by-
ing near *Highgate* Street; the said *Marshall* hearing a noise
his house came down to his front, imagining one of his own
valets was up in the unreasonable hour; as soon as he was out to
the bottom of the stairs, they fell upon him, and cut and wounded
him in several places, discharging a Pistol loaded with bullets, upon
the report of which and the out cry, he made calling for help, his Son
came down and they immediately took the Prisoner for his life left his
flat behind him which was known to be his, both by Mr.
Marshall and his Son who had seen him wear it, he having been
for

formerly Mr. *Marshall's* Servant, was personally known to him tho under a disguise. He could make very little defence for himself at his Tryal, and since sentence hath, by the extraordinary pains of that worthy person Mr. *Ordway* been brought into a deep sense and utter abhorrence of those Vicious Courses which have brought him to this untimely End.

John Stoker, a young man about eighteen years of age, was indicted for picking the Pocket of *Elizabeth Rolle*, of her Place in which was 38 Shillings in Mony; as she was passing along *Pye Corner*, his Hand was taken in her pocket, but he Violently snatching it our him away with the Mony, but upon per suit was seized and was Committed to Newgate, and the Assize upon plain Evidence was found Guilty. Tho he was but young in Years he had been long acquainted with such wicked practices and now brought to Condign punishment. Upon the near approach of Death he began to receive the impression of those Religious duties with more Zeal and Attention and to appear more sensible of his miserable and deplorable Condition.

Mary Williamson, alias *Jones* under the pretence of Service, hir'd her self to Mr. *Powney* of *St. Lawrence Pauls Church London*, and lived with him from *Michelmass* to the 26th of *October* following, at which time her Master and Mistress being gone a Journey she broke open a Trunk where their Plate and Mony lay, and Robbing them thereof, to the value of three hundred pound sterling. Being afterwards apprehended, and this appearing upon full Evidence against her, as also that she being an old offender, and had been formerly convicted of the like; she was now found Guilty, and this day Executed with great remorse and sorrow for those wicked practices she had been so frequently guilty of, and now deservedly suffered for.

Alice Hart lived in the Parish of *S. Martins in the Fields* and lodged at the House of *Mary Hearn*, who was the most material witness against her. She was indicted for Clipping six Half-crowns, of the Lawful Coins of this Kingdom, called King *Charles* the first his Half-crowns, diminishing each of the said Half-crowns to the value of 4d. Her aforesaid Landlady seemed to connive thereat, by procuring her broad mony, and after it was clipped by changing it into Guinys, allowing 2s. and 8d. a Guiny, which they at another place, changed again into Silver at 1s. and 6d. per Guiny. The said *Mary Hearn* confessing she had in this manner changed away seven Half-crowns, and also deposed that she had seen her Clipping Filings and diminishing Mony. Finding that the Silver, Clipped Mony and broad Evidence thereof, being found in the House; she was therefore brought in guilty of Felony or High-Treason and was this day burnt at *Tower* the first time in publick, but in her Behaviour appeared very penitent and being brought to the Stake where she was chained, made often use of several pious Expressions and Religious Exhortations to her nearest Friends.

Friends after some little time of Devotion the Fire vvas kindled, the
smoke of which did not only choke a her: She expired only with the
last breath of her life.

There were in all 12 condemned, of which Number through his
Majestys Grace and Clemency, six had a Reprieve, and two others,
viz. *John Nicholas*, and *Mary Desce*, pleaded their Bellys, and being
by a Jury of Women found to be with Child, Execution vvas respi-
red till after their Deliverance, when they must suffer according to
law, unless by his Majestys Gracious pardon they obtain a New
Life.

On *Wednesday* the 25th of this last Month, out Nine of the
Clock, the Cart vvas brought into the Court, where they were
drawn to the place of Execution. They behaved themselves with a
very devout and Christian-like Carriage, bearing the weight of all
their sins upon their Souls, and then were all hanged by the Neck
of them hung a great while before they were dead.

Mar. 17. 1671. *James* alias *James* under the pretence of Service, had
been to Mr. *James* of St. *James* Poultry London, and lived with
him from Michaelmas to the 20th of October following, at which time
her Master and Mistress being gone a Journey, the broke open a
Trunk where their Plate and Money lay, and Robbing them thereof,
to the value of three hundred pound, being afterwards ap-
prehended, and this appearing upon full Evidence against her, as also
that the being an old offender, and had been formerly convicted of
the like: she was now found Guilty, and this day Executed with
the same and sorrow for those that had been so much
impudently Guilty, and now deservedly punished.

Entered according to ORDER

and
witnessed at the House of Commons, who was the first witness
of the said fact. She was indicted for Clipping six Half-crowns of
the last year of this Kingdom, called King Charles the first his
Half-crown, amounting each of the said Half-crowns to the value
of six pence, and she was found guilty thereof, by procu-
ring her broad money, and after it was clipped by changing it into
Guineas, allowing six, and six Guineas, which they at another place
changed again into silver at six and six pence Guiney. The said
money being consigned the said in this manner changed away from
her, and she was found guilty thereof, being found
in the House: she was therefore brought in guilty of felony &
High Treason and vvas this day burnt at Tyburn, the execution much
in publick, but in her Behaviors appeared very penitent, and being
brought to the Stake where she vvas chained, made often use of le-
velious Expressions and Religious Exhortations to her friends
and